Mr. JOHNSON. Have you ever had an occasion to set up a surveillance detail in the firehouse before?

Mr. REDDITT. Not in the firehouse; no.

Mr. JOHNSON. So there came a time when Smith, Inspector Smith informed you that the security detail was being disbanded, am I right about that?

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. Then you are not sure who suggested, either you or someone in the party, that some kind of surveillance be set up in the firehouse which is across the street from the Lorraine Motel; is that right?

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. What happened then?

Mr. REDDITT. The next step would be I had to call my supervisor and indicate where I was and what I had to do and I undoubtedly was given an OK. Because at the time either we went back to headquarters or someone brought us binoculars. I don't remember what transpired.

Mr. JOHNSON. So now, once the security detail is withdrawn, you are physically in the fire station across the street from the Lorraine?

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. Once you took your post in the fire station, were you in any physical proximity to Dr. King, where you would have been in a position to protect him from any physical harm?

Mr. REDDITT. No.

Mr. JOHNSON. Did you maintain your surveillance in the firehouse the evening of the 3d and all day on April 4, until you were removed?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes.

Mr. JOHNSON. Now, just tell the committee, if you would, Detective Redditt, what did you do? You went to the back of the firehouse. Did you put anything up in the back of it like paper?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes; at one point firemen began to come back and peer out the window. So we put up a newspaper and cut it out so people couldn't see, peering from the window, because you could see even with the paper up there.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my questions.

Chairman STOKES. The Chair will now recognize the gentleman from Connecticut, Mr. McKINNEY, for such time as he may consume.

Mr. McKINNEY. Detective Redditt, you were there on the 3d and 4th until your removal on the 4th. Did you leave the firehouse and go to the Clayborn Temple on the 3d?

Mr. REDDITT. I don't remember, sir.

Mr. McKINNEY. You don't remember going to the temple on the 3d, at some time at about 6:35, 8:35?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes, sir. I recall that.

Mr. McKINNEY. Did you have anyone go with you? Did Lieutenant Richmond go with you at that point?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes, sir.

Mr. McKINNEY. When you went to the temple, wasn't it a fact that Dr. King was still at the Lorraine?

Mr. REDDITT. I don't recall, sir; I am not really sure.

Mr. REDDITT. Not other than when I was subpenaed by him or his colleague to court.

Mr. MCKINNEY. That is the only contact that he has tried to make with you?

Mr. REDDITT. That is true.

Mr. MCKINNEY. I have no more questions, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman STOKES. Counsel for the committee, Mr. Johnson.

Mr. SMOTHERS. Mr. Chairman, I believe the witness has an additional matter to add in response to the Congressman's earlier question.

CHAIRMAN STOKES. Certainly, he can be heard.

Mr. REDDITT. The second answer to that, Congressman, is that I was contacted when this book was written to come to Washington, D.C. to plug it, which I totally refused.

Mr. MCKINNEY. Thank you very much.

Chairman STOKES. The Chair recognizes counsel for the committee, Gene Johnson.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. Redditt, I want to make a couple of things clear, if you would, that, one, Dr. King had been in Memphis on the 18th of March and he had been there on the 28th of March?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHNSON. You testified in executive session testimony that during those two prior trips that you did not provide security for Dr. King?

Mr. REDDITT. Correct.

Mr. JOHNSON. So if it has been suggested, as it was in the book with the conversation allegedly had between you and Mr. Lane, that you had always provided security for Dr. King, and your answer, or at least Mr. Lane records your answer as being "Right," that is totally erroneous; am I right about that?

Mr. REDDITT. That is right.

Mr. JOHNSON. Not only is it erroneous, but my next question is, did you ever tell Mr. Lane that when Dr. King always came to Memphis, you always provided security for him?

Mr. REDDITT. No.

Mr. JOHNSON. So if it appears in Mr. Lane's book as it does, it is erroneous?

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. Now you remember there was a conversation when you appeared in your executive session testimony about your leaving the firehouse approximately 6:30 that evening, going to Clayborn Temple.

Do you remember that conversation we had about your leaving, and that you had initially said in your testimony that one of the reasons that you left, you left because Dr. King's party had left and that you had followed them to Clayborn Temple?

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. Do you remember the give and take——

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON [continuing]. With me about that?

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. Then there came a time when I asked you very clearly, I said, Mr. Redditt, would you explain for the committee, if you would, if you were in a security relationship with Dr. King,

and that you left, as yo
the executive session, at
how could you explain t
in a security relationshi
the Lorraine Motel in the

Mr. REDDITT. Yes.

Mr. JOHNSON. Do you r
that?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes.

Mr. JOHNSON. I ask you
recollection where you re
you could have been in an
the evening of April 3, 196

Mr. REDDITT. That is cor

Mr. JOHNSON. Now there
born Temple, and remembe
top speech. Do you remem
get into any security relatic

Mr. REDDITT. No.

Mr. JOHNSON. So for the
rally at Clayborn Temple
business, did you not?

Mr. REDDITT. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHNSON. Your recoll
rally was over you went any

Mr. REDDITT. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. So the nig
security relationship with Dr
he was, and you were wh
not together; is that true?

Mr. REDDITT. That is true.

Mr. JOHNSON. Now there ca
1968, Dr. King is at the Lorr
to your security post at the fir

Mr. REDDITT. That is correct

Mr. JOHNSON. At any time
Motel to see or to talk with D

Mr. REDDITT. No.

Mr. JOHNSON. Can you recoll
time, once you stationed yours
which is firehouse No. 2, that
time that you were informe
wanted to see you downtown?

Mr. REDDITT. That is correct.

Mr. JOHNSON. Which means t
all day on April 4, and Dr.
assuming arguendo that he sta
did not, that you could not a
security for Dr. King.

Mr. REDDITT. That is correct.

Mr. JOHNSON. It has become
am wrong about it—on your prev
Inspector Smith informed you
drawn, that only for a brief time